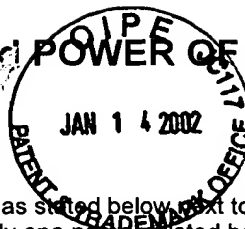


DECLARATION and POWER OF ATTORNEY



ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NO.:
PHFR000089 US

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled
"Image processing method and system for extracting a string of points following a threadlike structure in a sequence of images"

the specification of which (check one)

☐ is attached hereto.

☒ was filed on 29 August 2001 as Application Serial No. 09/942,004 and was amended on _____ (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by the amendment(s) referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, § 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

PRIOR FOREIGN APPLICATION(S)

COUNTRY	APP. NUMBER	DATE OF FILING (DATE, MONTH, YEAR)	PRIORITY CLAIMED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 119
Europe	00402409.7	31 August 2000	YES

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35 United States Code, §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

PRIOR UNITED STATES APPLICATION(S)

APPLICATION SERIAL NUMBER	FILING DATE	STATUS (PATENTED, PENDING, ABANDONED)

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (list name and registration number)

Jack E. Haken, Reg. No. 26,902
Michael E. Marion, Reg. No. 32,266
Edward M. Blocker, Reg. No. 30,245

SEND CORRESPONDENCE TO: Corporate Patent Counsel; U.S. Philips Corporation; 580 White Plains Road; Tarrytown, NY 10591	DIRECT TELEPHONE CALLS TO: (name and telephone No.) (914) 332-0222
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Dated: 26 September 2001		Inventor's Signature: <i>Raoul FLORENT</i>	
Full Name of Inventor	Last Name FLORENT	First Name Raoul	Middle Name
Residence & Citizenship	City Valenton-Ville d'Avray	State or Foreign Country France	Country of Citizenship France
Post Office Address	Street 15 av Gambetta 1, Chemin des Aulnettes	City 92410 Ville d'Avray 94460 Valenton	State or Country France
Dated: 12 October 2001		Inventor's Signature: <i>Lucille GOUBET</i>	
Full Name of Inventor	Last Name GOUBET	First Name Lucille	Middle Name
Residence & Citizenship	City Paris-Rueil-Malmaison	State or Foreign Country France	Country of Citizenship France
Post Office Address	Street 135, rue Danton 5, Rue de la Voute	City 92500 Rueil-Malmaison F-75012 Paris	State or Country France
		Zip Code	

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
In re Application of
RAOUL FLORENT ET AL

Atty. Docket
FR 000089

Serial No. 09/942,004

Filed: AUGUST 29, 2001

Group Art Unit: 2621

Examiner

Title: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR EXTRACTING A STRING
OF POINTS FOLLOWING A THREADLIKE STRUCTURE IN A SEQUENCE OF IMAGES

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

ATTENTION: APPLICATION DIVISION

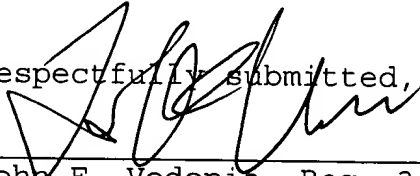
RESPONSE TO NOTICE TO FILE MISSING
PARTS OF APPLICATION

Sir:

In response to the NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF
APPLICATION mailed on October 3, 2001, enclosed is a Declaration,
properly signed by the Applicant(s) and referring to the above case
by its Serial Number and filing date, in compliance with 37 CFR
1.63, and a copy of the Notice. Accordingly, the above-identified
patent application is now complete.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 14-1270 in the
amount of \$130.00 for the surcharge for filing the Declaration on a
date later than the filing date of the application, as set forth in
37 CFR 1.16(e).

Respectfully submitted,

By 
John F. Vodopia, Reg. 36,299
Attorney
(914) 333-9627

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited this date
with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to:

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS

Washington, D.C. 20231

On November 13, 2001

By Valerie Weas

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